NUMB. LXXXIV.

The GUARDIAN.

Non missura cutem nisi plena cruoris hirudo. Hor.

Wednesday, June 17. 1713.

Middle-Temple, June 12.

To the Honoured NESTOR IRONSIDE, *Esq;*

SIR,

'PResuming you may sometimes condescend 'to take Cognizance of small Enormities, 'I here lay one before you, which I pro- 'ceed to without further Apology, as 'well knowing that the best Compliment to a Man 'of Business is to come to the Point.

'There is a silly Habit among many of our Minor 'Orators, who display their Eloquence in the seve- 'ral Coffee-houses of this fair City, to the no small 'Annoyance of considerable Numbers of her Maje- 'sty's spruce and loving Subjects, and that is a 'Humour they have got of twisting off your But- 'tons. These Ingenious Gentlemen are not able 'to advance three Words till they have got fast hold 'of one of your Buttons; but as soon as they have 'procured such an excellent handle for Discourse, 'they will indeed proceed with great Elocution. I 'know not how well some may have escaped, but 'for my part I have often met with them to my 'Cost, having I believe within these three Years 'last past been argued out of several Dozens; in- 'somuch that I have for some Time ordered my 'Taylor to bring me home with every Suit a dozen 'at least of spare ones, to supply the Place of such 'as from time to time are detached as an Help to 'Discourse, by the vehement Gentlemen before- 'mentioned. This way of holding a Man in Dis- 'course is much practised in the Coffee-houses 'within the City, and does not indeed so much 'prevail at the politer End of the Town. It is 'likewise more frequently made use of among the 'small Politicians, than any other Body of Men: 'I am therefore something cautious of entering 'into a Controversie with this Species of Statesmen, 'especially the younger Fry; for if you offer in the 'least to dissent from any thing that one of these 'advances, he immediately steps up to you, takes 'hold of one of your Buttons, and indeed will 'soon convince you of the Strength of his Argu- 'mentation. I remember upon the News of *Dun- 'kirk* being delivered into our Hands, a brisk little 'Fellow, a Politician and an able Ingineer, had 'got into the middle of *Batson*'s Coffee-house, and 'was fortifying *Graveling*, for the Service of the 'most-Christian King, with all imaginable Expedition. 'The Work was carried on with such Success, 'that in less than a quarter of an Hour's time he 'had made it almost impregnable, and, in the Opi- 'nion of several worthy Citizens who had gather'd 'round him, full as strong both by Sea and Land 'as *Dunkirk* ever could pretend to be. I happened, 'however, unadvisedly to attack some of his Out- 'works; upon which, to shew his great Skill like- 'wise in the Offensive Part, he immediately made 'an Assault upon one of my Buttons, and carried 'it in less than two Minutes, notwithstanding I 'made as handsome a Defence as was possible: 'He had likewise invested a second, and would 'certainly have been Master of that too in a very 'little time, had not he been diverted from this 'Enterprize by the Arrival of a Courier, who 'brought Advice that his Presence was absolutely 'necessary in the Disposal of a Beaver; upon which 'he raised the Siege, and indeed retired with some 'Precipitation. In the Coffee-houses here about the '*Temple* you may Harangue even among our Dab- 'lers in Politicks for about two Buttons a Day, 'and many times for less. I had yesterday the good 'Fortune to receive very considerable Additions to 'my Knowledge in State-Affairs, and I find this 'Morning that it has not stood me in above a But- 'ton.

(Price Two Pence.)

'ton. In moſt of the eminent Coffee-houſes at the 'other end of the Town, for example, to go no 'farther than *Will's* in *Covent-Garden*, the Company 'is ſo refined, that you may hear and be heard, 'and not be a Button the worſe for it. Beſides the 'Gentlemen before-mentioned, there are others who 'are no leſs active in their Harangues, but with gen-'tle Services rather than Robberies. Theſe, while 'they are improving your Underſtanding, are at the 'ſame time ſetting off your Perſon; they will new 'pleat and adjuſt your Neckcloth.

'But tho' I can bear with this kind of Orator, 'who is ſo humble as to aim at the good Will of 'his Hearer by being his *Valet de chambre*, I muſt 'rebel againſt another Sort of them. There are 'ſome, Sir, that do not ſtick to take a Man by the 'Collar when they have a Mind to perſuade him. 'It is your Buſineſs, I humbly preſume, Mr. *Iron-'ſide*, to interpoſe, that a Man is not brought over 'to his Opponent by force of Arms. It were re-'quiſite therefore that you ſhould name a certain 'Interval, which ought to be preſerved between the 'Speaker and him to whom he ſpeaks. For ſure 'no Man has a Right, becauſe I am not of his O-'pinion, to take any of my Cloaths from me, or 'dreſs me according to his own liking. I aſſure 'you, the moſt becoming thing to me in the World 'is in a Campaign Perriwig to wear one Side be-'fore and the other caſt upon the collateral Shoul-'der. But there is a Friend of mine who never 'talks to me but he throws that which I wear for-'ward upon my Shoulder, ſo that in reſtoring 'it to its Place I loſe two or three Hairs 'out of the Lock upon my Buttons; though 'I never touched him in my whole Life, and 'have been acquainted with him this ten Year. I 'have ſeen my eager Friend in danger ſometimes of 'a Quarrel by this ill Cuſtom, for there are more 'young Gentlemen who can feel than can under-'ſtand. It would be therefore a good Office to 'my good Friend if you adviſed him not to Collar 'any Man but one who knows what he means, 'and give it him as a ſtanding Precaution in Con-'verſation, that none but a very good Friend will 'give him the Liberty of being ſeen, felt, heard, 'and underſtood all at once.

I am, SIR,

Your moſt Humble Servant,

Johannes Miſochiroſophus.

P. S. 'I have a Siſter who ſaves her ſelf from 'being handled by one of theſe manual Rhetoricians 'by giving him her Fan to play with; but I appeal 'to you in the behalf of us poor helpleſs Men.

I Am of Opinion, that no Orator or Speaker in Publick or Private has any Right to meddle with any Body's Cloaths but his own: I indulge Men in the Liberty of playing with their own Hats, fumbling in their own Pockets, ſettling their own Perriwigs, toſſing or twiſting their Heads, and all other Geſticulations which may contribute to their Elocution, but pronounce it an Infringement of the *Engliſh* Liberty for a Man to keep his Neighbour's Perſon in Cuſtody in order to force an Hearing; and farther declare, that all Aſſent given by an Auditor, under ſuch Conſtraint, is of it ſelf void and of no Effect.

NESTOR IRONSIDE.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

Juſt Publiſhed,

The Law of Elections; being an Abſtract of all the Statutes in force, relating to the Election of Members to ſerve in the Houſe of Commons. In three Sections, viz. the Duties of the Electors, the Elected, and the Officers Returning. Printed for Jacob Tonſon at Shake-ſpear's Head againſt Katherine-ſtreet in the Strand.

A Collection of Italian Prints, either Volumes or ſingle Sheets, Principally uſeful to the Studious of Antiquity, Architecture and Deſigning, viz. Ancient Rome, Roman Triumphs, Columns of Trajan, Aurelius and Antonius, Triumphal Arches, Romana Magnitudinis Monumenta, Romanarum Antiquitatum Veſtigia, Sepolchri antichi, Lucerne antichi, Gemmæ antichi in 4 Parts, Statues of Rome, Churches of Rome, Civil Architecture, Raphael's Hiſtory of the Bible, &c. with many ſingle Sheets fit for framing. Engraved by Doringby, Aquila, Bloemart, &c. After the Paintings of Carracci, Coreggio, Tempeſta, Perruzi, Marratta, Ciro Ferri, Albani, Lanfranc, Julio Romano, Michael Angelo, Cortona, Titian, Raphael, &c. Strings for the Viol or Violin. Globes of 16, 12 and 3 Inches D. An Atlas or Book of Maps. The World and Quarters paſted upon Cloth with Deſcriptions. Mr. Whiſton's Scheme of the ſolar Syſtem, price 2 s. 6 d. The Grand Curioſity, price 2 s. A Treatiſe of God's Foreknowledge and Man's free Agency, price 1 s. All Sold by J. Senex and J. Maxwell at the Globe in Saliſ-bury-Court Fleet-ſtreet, who are going on with a Pair of Globes of about 30 Inches Diameter, without Subſcription and at a moderate Price, which they intend to finiſh with all convenient Speed.

The Libraries of Sir H. Sheeres, Knt. and a Gentleman lately come from Travel, Deceaſed. Conſiſting of many valuable Books chiefly of the Mathematicks, Hiſtory, Travels and Voyages; Claſſical and Philological Learning, Divinity, Poetry, Muſick, Lives, Trade and Husbandry, &c. In Greek, Latin, Engliſh, Italian, Spaniſh, French and Dutch, with Mapps, Charts, Philoſophical Tranſactions, Bound or Single. Choice Tracts in ſeveral Sciences, Plays, &c. with Manuſcripts. Will begin to be Sold by Retaile, very Reaſonable, (the Price being in each Book) on this Day the 17th Inſtant, in the Inner-Walk at the Eaſt-End of Exeter-Exchange. Catalogues are to be had at Mr. Strahan's at the Golden Ball in Cornhill, Mr. Innis's at the Feathers in St. Paul's Church-Yard, Mr. Brown at the Swan without Temple-Bar, Mr. Stokoe at the Golden Key againſt the Mews-Gate, Mr. Barker in Weſtminſter-Hall, and at the Place of Sale, where are written Catalogues of many more to be ſeen.

LONDON: Printed for *J. Tonſon* in the *Strand*; and Sold by *A. Baldwin* in *Warwick-Lane*; where Advertiſements are taken in. 1713.